

REMEDATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR August 25, 2004

PLAN FOR NOVEMBER SITE ASSESSMENT GRANT (SAG) DEADLINE

Applications for round six of DNR's SAG awards are expected to be due to DNR in November. The exact due date will be announced with the updated SAG application form, which will be available shortly. The new form will also clarify some changes to the application process in the revised SAG administrative rule (NR 168, Wis. Admin. Code). Local governments and environmental consultants that expect to submit SAG applications should start planning now. For background information about SAG, please see our web page at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/sag.htm>. For information about SAG training next month, please see the next article.

DNR OFFERS SEPTEMBER SITE ASSESSMENT GRANT (SAG) TRAINING

In preparation for round 6 of DNR's SAG awards, the RR Program is planning four training sessions in September, from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. The training schedule and locations are:

- September 13, Milwaukee - UW-Milwaukee, 161 West Wisconsin Ave. (John Plankinton Building), room 7970
- September 22, Eau Claire - UW-Eau Claire Campus - Davies Center (Tamarack Room)
- September 23, Green Bay - Brown County Agriculture & Extension Center, 1150 Bellevue Street, room 114 (Donovan North),
- September 29, Madison - 125 S. Webster Street (GEF III Building), room 041.

The training is free to local government and tribal officials, others pay a \$20 fee. Training topics will include an introduction to SAG, revisions to the SAG rule, preparing applications on the new form, and grant administration and reimbursements. For more details on the training, including the agenda and registration form please see our SAG web page at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/sag.htm#training>.

EPA CANCELS ONE OF TWO FEDERAL GRANT WORKSHOPS

EPA has canceled their scheduled training for federal brownfield grant applicants (August 11 "RR News" announcement). EPA's "Proposal Guidelines for FY2005", October 20-21 in Chicago has been canceled because it falls too close to the planned November 12 due date for federal grant applications. The "Administration Workshop" for those who have been awarded federal grants will still take place on October 19-20 as planned. EPA is holding hotel accommodations for attendees at that session until August 30. For more information, please see the EPA web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>. EPA plans to have their new guidance for FY 2005 brownfield grant applicants available by the end of August.

EPA PROPOSES ALL APPROPRIATE INQUIRY RULE FOR PROPERTY PURCHASE AND SUPERFUND LIABILITY

EPA has announced its proposed rule requiring potential owners to conduct inquiries into the previous ownership, uses, and environmental conditions of land prior to purchase in order to obtain release from Superfund liability. If the inquiries are properly performed and other related steps are taken, purchasers can buy the land with assurance from EPA that they will not be subject to lawsuits under Superfund. EPA intends the proposed rule to clarify statutory language and to encourage purchase,

cleanup, and redevelopment of property that may be environmentally contaminated. The proposed language will also apply to anyone conducting a site characterization or assessment with funding from the federal brownfields grant program, regardless of whether a purchase takes place. The proposed rule is a result of a collaborative process involving state, tribal and local governments, environmental justice groups, lenders and real estate developers. The preamble to the proposed rule will provide information on how to submit public comments to EPA. For more information, including a fact sheet and the proposed rule language, please EPA's web page at: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/regneg.htm>.

KATHY ERDMANN NAMED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Kathy Erdmann was recently selected as the Employee of the Year in DNR's Air & Waste Division. This division includes four DNR programs – Air Management, Waste Management, Cooperative Environmental Assistance and Remediation & Redevelopment. Kathy works in the Remediation and Redevelopment Program in our Northeast Region, where she is an advanced hydrogeologist with extensive experience in technical review, brownfields, Superfund, and Spill response. Kathy is known both within DNR and to external partners as an employee knowledgeable in both technical issues and redevelopment options. Congratulations Kathy!

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